

\$7500, all of which will be expended on books concerning the history of medicine.

Dr. Barkan, himself, is now in Europe, and he has employed an expert and has also gained the assistance of one of the most celebrated professors in Europe to aid him in getting together this collection.

Dr. Barkan was professor of structure and diseases of the eye, ear, and larynx, in the Medical School, and retired from active teaching in 1911. He has before this been a liberal benefactor of the Medical School Library, having given his own library dealing with the subjects in his own special field, together with \$10,000 as a fund for the purchase of other books on these subjects.

PLACER COUNTY

The Placer County Medical Society held its regular meeting at the Colfax Hospital, Saturday evening, April 2, 1921. The program consisted of a pneumothorax clinic. The operation of pneumothorax was performed on two patients, and several cases illustrating partial and complete pneumothorax, hydrothorax and hydropneumothorax were exhibited on the fluoroscopic screen for the benefit of the visiting physicians.

Following the clinic, the regular business of the society was transacted and the meeting was adjourned.

SONOMA COUNTY

At the March meeting, a new constitution and by-laws for the society were adopted; the principle change being the establishment of an executive committee consisting of the president, secretary, and three members appointed by the president so as to represent the different sections of the county, and having the power to act for the society when expediency requires.

The society was invited to the home of Dr. J. W. Cline to celebrate his fortieth anniversary as a doctor. As a token of esteem the doctor was presented with a silver cup.

Immunity

The Journal will express no opinion of and assume no responsibility for the views of "Immunity" correspondents. They must win or lose on their own merits by abounding in their own wisdom, and each reader must appraise each communication for what it is worth and take it for better or worse.

Communications will not be signed when published, but the author must be known to the editor. Send on your complaints, your kicks, your knocks, your boasts. We want constructive and destructive criticism. Air your pet hobbies. You are not limited to your own town or the medical profession.

WHY! OH! WHY!

To the Editor: Two queries have been propounded in the surgeons' dressing rooms of the Hospital of late.

(1) Why, or what has discouraged the appearance of the free lunch-stand at the County Medical meetings? With the lunch we were always sure of having an evening not entirely wasted.

(2) Does the hospital pay rent for the lounging-room of the County Medical Society, to be employed by its lethargic nurses?

I, with others, would be pleased to hear the answers.

Sincerely,

San Francisco, April 9, 1921.

X. Y. Z.

St. Joseph's Hospital, San Diego

By C. E. REES, M. D.

St. Joseph's Sanitarium has been operated as a general hospital by the Sisters of Mercy since 1890, and has gradually been enlarged from an institution accommodating thirty-five patients to one accommodating one hundred and fifty.

The present hospital consists of three buildings. The main hospital building, comprising four stories, is the one in which all patients are cared for. The annex is a two-story building, the lower portion of which contains nurses' lecture hall and X-ray department; the upper floor contains the operating

rooms. This annex is connected with the main building by a corridor. The third building, a modern home for nurses, is situated about one-half block from the hospital.

The nurses' training school has at present about forty pupil nurses, under the direction of one of the sisters, who is hospital superintendent. The regulation three-year course is given and all sisters doing nursing duties are either pupils or graduate nurses. At the present time there are eighteen sisters who are registered graduate nurses of this hospital.

The main part of the hospital is segregated into three departments—the surgical, occupying two floors; medical, one floor, and obstetrical, one floor. Each floor is in charge of a graduate sister, and the general nursing is done by pupils.

The obstetrical department is very complete. The delivery room and nursery are each in charge of a sister and are well separated from the rest of the hospital. The delivery rooms will accommodate three labor patients at one time, and contain quarters for physicians.

The nursery maintains very complete records of infants; the foot-print identification method is used; one print being taken at delivery, and the second when the infant leaves the hospital.

The surgery unit is separated from the main building and is very completely equipped, having two large major operating rooms; two minor operating rooms; one dark specialty room, in addition to sterilizing room, nurses' room, doctors' room and quarters. The operating department is in charge of a specially trained surgical nurse, who has two graduate sisters as assistants. The last three months of the pupil nurse's course are spent in this department.

The laboratory is in charge of two pathologists who alternate services and who are employed by the hospital. The pathologist has two assistants—one a trained full-time technician, and the other a sister who is a graduate nurse—so that a laboratory assistant is always available for emergency work.

A two-dollar laboratory fee is charged each patient on admission; this fee covers charges on following laboratory work:

1st—Complete blood count and urinalysis, which is done on every patient as soon as admitted;

2nd—Any smears and culture which may be necessary;

3rd—Gross and microscopic examination on all tissues removed.

This is a routine procedure, and all tissue removed in surgery is sectioned. All other laboratory work is done at moderate fees, which are waived when necessary.

The X-ray department is operated by a Roentgenologist who has as his assistant a sister nurse who is available at all times. Fees for this work are at a moderate schedule, but are reduced or waived as the case demands.

All necessary work in this hospital is so arranged that the patient after admission may receive all of the benefits of the institution, regardless of his financial condition.

The record department is in charge of a specially trained sister, and all records are completed, filed and indexed according to name and disease.

The hospital requires of the attending physician a complete history and physical examination record of each patient within twenty-four hours after admission, and all surgical patients must have a written pre-operative diagnosis on their charts before they are anaesthetized.

The hospital has a regularly appointed staff, and any member of the medical profession who is in good standing is eligible to apply for appointment.

Staff appointment requires a pledge of members to observe rules and regulations of the hospital, which rules are essentially those established in the minimum standard of the American College of Surgeons.